

REMARKS

By this Amendment, independent claims 1, 4 and 9 have been amended merely to clarify the that the radio repeater is provided with a radio receiver and a radio transmitter for receiving and transmitting radio signals and to define that the frequency channels used by the radio receiver and radio transmitter of the repeater can be changed by means of control signals received by a subscriber station which is connected to the repeater. Support for these amendments may be found in the specification generally and at page 5, line 34 to page 6, Figure 2 and page 8, lines 18 to 24.

Claims 1-5, 7-9 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rhodes et al. (U.S. Pat. 5,909,437; hereafter "Rhodes") and Laham et al. (U.S. Pat. 6,443,372; hereafter "Laham") and claims 6 and 11 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) based on Rhodes, Laham and Archambaud et al. (U.S. 6,304,560; hereafter "Archambaud").

Applicant traverses the rejections because the cited prior art references, analyzed individually or in combination, fail to disclose, teach or suggest the claimed invention. For example, the cited prior art teachings fail to disclose, teach or suggest the recited method, radio communication system and subscriber station that, wherein a radio repeater is provided with a radio receiver for receiving and a radio transmitter for transmitting radio signals and wherein the frequency channels used by repeater's radio receiver and radio transmitter can be changed by means of control signals received by a subscriber station which is connected to the repeater, as recited in independent claims 1, 4 and 9 and their respective dependent claims.

As explained previously, Rhodes fails to teach or suggest any radio repeater whatsoever. Thus, Rhodes clearly fails to teach or suggest a repeater including a receiver and a transmitter that would be connected to a subscriber station such that the frequency channels used by the receiver and transmitter can be changed by control signals received by the subscriber station via the radio path.

The Office Action asserted that Laham's repeater software and hardware system 72 act as a "subscriber station that receives commands from a remote MCRT 20 over a wireless radio link" (page 7 of the official action). However, if the system 72 corresponds to the claimed subscriber station, then Laham, like Rhodes, fails to disclose, teach or suggest the claimed repeater including a receiver and transmitter whose frequency channels can be

controlled by control signals received via the system 72. In fact, the system 72 is part of a repeater. Thus, it cannot be said that the system 72 corresponds to the subscriber station that controls a repeater.

Even if the teachings of Rhodes and Laham were combined, one of ordinary skill in the art would not have arrived at the claimed invention because Laham clearly suggests that it is sufficient to use only one radio transmitter/receiver in connection with the repeater, and not a separate subscriber station in addition to the receiver and transmitter of the repeater, as in the rejected claims. Specifically, Laham teaches that it is advantageous to provide a repeater 30 with a single transmitter/receiver such that the control signals to the repeater can be transmitted among the other communication signals which the repeater forwards to the subscriber stations of the system (see Laham, col. 7, lines 3 - 46). As a result, the combined teachings of Rhodes and Laham fail to provide the recited solution detailed in the rejected claims, in particular, independent claims 1, 4 and 9, wherein a radio repeater would be connected to a subscriber station in such a way that the radio repeater is controlled by the subscriber station in response to control signals transmitted on the radio path to the subscriber station.

Archambaud similarly fails to remedy the deficiencies of the combined teachings of Rhodes and Laham because Archambaud merely teaches on the specific topic of wireless local loop systems. Therefore, the combined teachings of Rhodes, Laham and Archambaud fail to disclose, teach or suggest all the features recited in the rejected claims. Claims 1-9 and 11-12 are, thus, allowable over the cited prior art.

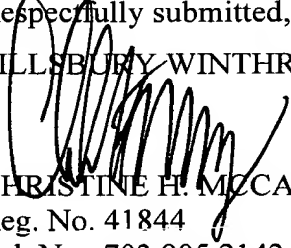
All issues having been traversed, Applicant submits that the application is in condition for immediate allowance and requests that a Notice be issued to that effect. If anything remains necessary to place the application in condition for allowance, Applicant requests that the Examiner contact Applicant's undersigned representative.

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Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 033975. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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